

Initiative Name:**Mental Health Commission****Initiative Description:**

Establishment of a Michigan Mental Health Commission to review, assess and evaluate Michigan's publicly-funded mental health service system for adults with serious mental illnesses and children with serious emotional disorders.

Michigan closed numerous state mental hospitals during the 1990s, and transferred most care management and service provision to community mental health services programs (CMHSPs). The state also implemented a mental health managed care program for Medicaid beneficiaries needing specialized Medicaid covered mental health services. This specialty managed care plan is also administered by CMHSPs.

Given the rapid pace of these changes, there is evidence that the public mental health system has certain organizational, design, funding, operational and performance problems that need to be identified and resolved. The Commission will identify pressing issues or problems in the service system and make specific action-oriented recommendations regarding how Michigan can address or resolve these concerns.

The members of the Commission will constitute a broad and diverse group of citizens and stakeholders, including legislators, family members, consumers, advocates, state department directors, the judiciary, community mental health board and service provider representatives, and mental health professionals.

Expected Outcomes:Administration Goals Attained:

- Improve the Delivery of Publicly Funded Mental Health Services

Other Benefits and Outcomes:

- Redesign and improve coordination of services for adults and children with serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbances.
- Protect rights of those with mental illness
- Supports "One Michigan" and open government

Progress to date:

- Commission has been established with three meetings held to date. Sub-Committee Chairpersons identified and integrated into the Project Management Team.
- Summaries of meetings have been developed, given to Commissioners and posted on Commission Web Site. Principles, Values, and Organizational Structure for Commission Activities developed and approved.

- Dates and locations announced were announced for public hearings; and public hearings were held throughout state in April. Summaries of each hearing have been completed, and the compilation of hearing themes, comments, and suggestions is being developed.
- The Commission met on June 26 and reviewed key issues identified by each work group. Areas of overlap and gaps were identified. Key issues were ranked in order of importance.